



Monday 27th February 1899

Received a telegram from Ms Schlucker [Schleicher] approving of the purchase of the plot near the well. In the evening we went to the spot and found it in every way more convenient than Bahad Sahib's ground. I hope the owner will not change his word to give one acre for Rs 275.

Tuesday 28th February 1899

Strange to say the owner of the plot near the well refused to part with one acre unless we purchased two acres at once. Shriram Pant therefore left for Bombay to consult with Schlu[+++]
[Schleicher] as to what we should do now. I received from Thacker & Co. copies of Hooker's Himalayan Journal!! and Private Life of an Eastern King.

Wednesday 1st March 1899

From the 'Morning Standard' of the 27th I learnt that my painting of the 'Water Bearer' won the prize of Rs 50 for the best figure painting in the Madras Fine Arts Exhibition. My 'Chill December Morning' was 'Highly commended'. I am anxious to know what the 'Mail' has to say of them.

Thursday 2nd March 1899

Schleicher came up by the 12 o'clock train and in the afternoon made arrangements to purchase another acre of ground near the well for Rs 300. The owner is an old man to whom Rs 15 were given as earnest money so that he may not change his word again. Shriram has been telegraphed to come up.

Friday 3rd March 1899

By today's post we received a catalogue and prize-winners' names from the Art Society. I telegraphed to the Honourable Secretary offering my painting of 'Water Bearer' as a present to adorn the society room in the Government Museum. Shriram Pant returned from Bombay.

Saturday 4th March 1899

In the evening Messrs Gerhardt and Sait came up from Bombay. The Madras 'Mail' and the Times, which contained notices about the exhibition spoke highly of Brother's 'Damayanti' and 'Hindu Devotee'. [They] seemed to think they were the pictures of the show, though the judges did not award neither [*sic*] of them a prize. The press opinion about my work was also good.

Sunday 5th March 1899

This morning Ms Gerhardt suggested certain improvements in my painting
of the Bhaji Tank which together with the Lohagad [Hill] were sent to the

